

THIRTY-SECOND
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BOARD OF MANAGERS

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS COLONIZATION SOCIETY,

PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING,

MAY 28, 1873.



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1873.

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Office of the Massachusetts Colonization Society, 16 Pemberton Square, Boston.

MASSACHUSETTS COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

THE MASSACHUSETTS COLONIZATION SOCIETY held its Thirty-second Annual Meeting at its office in Boston, on Wednesday, May 28, and by adjournment June 4, 1873, Hon. EMORY WASHBURN, President, in the Chair. The Treasurer's Account and the Annual Report of the Board of Managers were presented and accepted. The officers for the year ensuing were unanimously elected.

ANNUAL REPORT.

OBITUARY.

For the third time in succession, our Annual Report must commence with the record of a bereavement. The Rev. CHARLES BROOKS, our oldest Vice President except one, has been removed by death. He was first elected to the Vice Presidency in May, 1845. In 1862 he was also elected a member of the Board of Managers, and from that time has held both offices. Besides his advocacy of our cause at our annual meetings and on other occasions, he has, for some years, been a leader of public thought and action in the cause of National Education, his labors in behalf of which it belongs to others to commemorate. All our other officers and corporate members are still required by our Divine Master to continue their useful labors on earth.

The death of two eminent laborers in our cause, though connected with us only through the Society to which we are auxiliary, justly claim to be honorably recorded.

The Rev. RALPH RANDOLPH GURLEY was born in Lebanon, Connecticut, May 26, 1797, graduated at Yale College in 1818, and became an agent of the American Colonization Society in 1822. In 1824 he was sent to Africa on an important mission. There were difficulties in the Colony which seriously threatened

its extinction, notwithstanding all the efforts of its excellent Governor, Rev. Jehudi Ashmun. Mr. Gurley was sent out, with full power from the Society and the Government of the United States, to make all necessary arrangements for securing the interests of both. On his arrival, he saw at once the source of the difficulties, which none had previously understood. The colonists had no civil government. They were merely a company of laborers, under contract to do certain work for the United States, and intending to remain there permanently. They had no government but that of an agent appointed by the United States Government, from whom civil jurisdiction was expressly withheld, and another appointed by the Society, which had no power to confer it. Mr. Gurley convened the colonists, and induced them, in the exercise of their inalienable rights as men, to adopt and organize a government adapted to their condition. The difficulties at once subsided. Governor Ashmun reluctantly assented to try the experiment, but with no faith in it. On Mr. Gurley's return, the Managers of the Society did not approve his action, but allowed it to stand for the present, because they found nothing practicable to put in its place. The restoration of good order proved permanent, and in two years all parties gave his arrangement their cordial approbation and support.

The idea on which Mr. Gurley acted was a very simple one, and no great amount of political wisdom was required to arrange its details. His distinguishing merit is, the sagacity which saw, when nobody else saw it, its applicability to a small company of negro laborers, on a barbarous coast, and the generous boldness which dared to trust them with powers of self-government, when nobody else thought them capable of governing themselves. By these, he won a just claim to rank among the illustrious few whom the ages honor as the legislative founders of States; for Liberia could not well be ranked as a State till he gave her a government.

At the Annual Meeting of the Society in January, 1825, Mr. Gurley read the Annual Report, which was probably written by himself. In March, he commenced the publication of the *AFRICAN REPOSITORY*. In the Report for 1826, he is entitled "Resident Agent;" and in 1827 he was chosen Secretary, the

duties of which office he appears to have been performing for some time previously.

We can here give no adequate account of the zeal and eloquence with which, both by voice and pen, in the United States and in Europe, for many years, he advocated the cause to which he had devoted his whole life. He held that office, with slight interruptions, for thirty-seven years. At the Annual Meeting of the Society in 1864 it was evident that his health was seriously impaired, without hope of recovery. It was one of the most painful and embarrassing duties ever imposed upon him who was chairman of the Committee on Nominations, to draft and read the report, recommending that he be appointed Honorary Secretary, with an adequate provision for his comfortable support during the remainder of his life. The reading of the report, though all anticipated its substance, came upon them as the announcement of a calamity. It was followed by addresses from the other members of the Committee—the Rev. Dr. Maclean, President of Princeton College, and the Hon. D. S. Gregory, of New Jersey, which were heard with a profound and expressive silence, that showed how deeply every heart was moved. The adoption of that report released him from further official responsibility. Yet he continued to feel unabated interest in the cause, and to do what he could for its promotion, till, on the 30th of July, 1872, he was kindly released from all earthly labors.

The Rev. WILLIAM McLAIN, D. D., was born in Champaign County, Ohio, August 8, 1806; graduated at Miami University in 1831; studied theology at Andover and New Haven; was installed as pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Washington City, in January, 1837, and dismissed on account of declining health June 9, 1840. He became permanently connected with the Colonization Society. December 18, of the same year. To appreciate his character and services, we must consider the condition of the Society at that time.

It was a time of extreme financial embarrassment. Since about 1832, the Society had been opposed by a rapidly growing organization, which openly sought its destruction, and many of its supporters had been induced to withdraw their support. Its white agents in Africa, with but short acquaintance with

African affairs and debilitated both in body and mind by the coast fever, had made large purchases of goods, often the remnants of cargoes, a large portion of which were unnecessary, and much of them worthless. Bills had been accepted, growing out of the transactions of individuals, for which the Society was not liable before acceptance. The Society could not send out emigrants, because it had neither cash nor credit with which to purchase supplies, and supplies, if purchased, would be liable to attachment by its creditors. The friends of the enterprise in Maryland had formed a State Society, not auxiliary to the American, and not responsible for its debts, and had begun a colony. Those in New York, Pennsylvania, Louisiana, and Mississippi had followed the example, so that no funds could be expected from those States. In several other States the auxiliaries had ceased to exist, or to act: that of Vermont, and perhaps Connecticut, only remaining in New England.

In this state of affairs, the Hon. Samuel Wilkeson, of Buffalo, New York, determined that the Society should not die; that its work should go on, and its credit and influence should be restored. He would send out emigrants, meeting the expense from his own private resources, and trusting to the revived Society for final adjustment. Having matured his plans and made the necessary preliminary arrangements, he accepted, December 13, 1838, the office of Chairman of the Executive Committee, in which capacity he was to act as a General Agent of the Society, with very plenary power. A new Constitution was adopted, making the several State Societies, except that of Maryland, constituent parts of the American Society, and bringing their several colonies, which were independent of each other and in some danger of becoming rivals and antagonists, under one general government. He effected a compromise with the Society's creditors, proposed by some of them and assented to by others, by which they were to receive fifty per cent. of their claims in annual installments. This gave them about the American cost of their goods and freight to Africa, so that they lost only their expected profits. The Society's available assets, divided among them, would not have yielded a dividend of one per cent.

In the summer of 1839, while yet a pastor, Mr. McLain performed a short agency for the Society in Virginia, collecting emigrants; and after his dismissal, in August, 1840, was employed to dispatch the *Saluda* with emigrants from Norfolk. December 18, 1840, he was chosen "Clerk of the Executive Committee." From that time much of the Society's most difficult and delicate business fell into his hands. In January, 1841, he was appointed editor of the *African Repository*. In June, 1841, Judge Wilkeson was laid aside from labor by ill health, and compelled to resign his office December 15, leaving the whole work of both on Mr. McLain; and so it continued through the next year. In January, 1843, he was chosen Treasurer of the Society. He continued to perform the duties of that office under various titles as long as he lived.

At the time of Judge Wilkeson's retirement, his plans were far from being accomplished. Emigration had been continued, but the restoration of the State Societies to their proper relation was yet very imperfect: much of the old debts remained to be paid, and the credit of the Society, except as resting on his well-known wealth, was not re-established. Heavy burdens, therefore, rested on the shoulders of the new Treasurer. But he proved competent to the task. In a few years the old debts were all paid, and it came to be well known that the Society's promises to pay were always punctually met. He possessed in a remarkable degree the power of commanding the confidence of business men with whom he came in contact. Even entire strangers, who had never even heard of him, seemed to perceive at once that they were dealing with a man who understood his business and would fulfill his promises; and he never disappointed them.

Having surmounted these difficulties, there was little of incident in the remainder of his life. The rest was plain, continuous hard work. In 1856 symptoms of pulmonary consumption began to be clearly developed. From that time he never enjoyed firm health, and was sometimes unable to leave his house to attend the Annual Meetings of the Society. Yet he continued to perform the duties of his office. His last service was the receipt and indorsement of several checks, cover-

ing donations and bequests, but a few days before his death, which occurred on February 13 of the present year.

As Treasurer from 1843, and as Financial Secretary and Treasurer from 1858, his labors were not confined to the receiving, safe-keeping and paying out of the funds of the Society. They included the devising and often the personal execution of measures for raising funds, and of the most judicious modes of expending them. The avoidance, if possible, and, if not, the management of litigation of contested wills; the chartering and outfit of ships; the embarkation of emigrants; the management of the Society's business in Liberia—in short, all the pecuniary and commercial business of the Society, was done under his personal supervision, and nearly all by his own personal labor; and it was so done as to secure and retain the entire confidence of all with whom the Society had business to transact. To have done this for thirty years, commencing under such embarrassments, and though enfeebled more than half the time by pulmonary disease, shows an intellectual and moral character of no common excellence.

FINANCIAL.

Our financial arrangement with the American Colonization Society, to which we are auxiliary, still continues. Under it, the work of collecting funds has been performed by the District Secretary for Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island, the Rev. D. C. Haynes; a few donations only having been paid into your treasury directly by the donors. The proceeds of his labors, like those of all similar laborers, have of course been diminished by the disastrous conflagration of last November, which swept away so much of the wealth of our most liberal contributors, just before the usual time of their annual donations, and imposed upon others the necessity of withholding from us, that they might relieve the present distress of numerous sufferers. Yet we have found, as have other similar institutions, that the givers of Boston give on principle, and make efforts and sacrifices to sustain what they approve. The few who could, have given their usual amount, and others have given according to their remaining ability. The receipts into our treasury have been \$2,937 55, the dis-

bursements \$2,931 97, leaving a balance in the treasury of \$5 58. Of the disbursements, \$1,511 74 have been moneys collected by Mr. Haynes and paid by him directly into the treasury of the American Colonization Society to our credit. The falling off from last year is less than we feared, and is no cause of discouragement as to the future.

The election of Mr. Haynes yesterday as Financial Secretary of the American Peace Society will probably necessitate his early retirement from his connection with us; in which case it will be incumbent on the Society to which we are auxiliary to make such arrangements as may be expedient for the future transaction of the business of his department.

The financial condition of the American Colonization Society shows a decided improvement. Its receipts for 1872 were sufficient to meet the expenses of the year and leave a small balance in the treasury. For 1873, so far, the receipts have been much larger than for the corresponding months of 1872; and it is already known that for the remaining months the increase will be still larger. Yet we must remember that the opportunities for useful expenditure are increasing still faster than the receipts.

EMIGRATION.

The new arrangement for sending out emigrants by trading vessels, instead of owning or chartering, continues to operate favorably. There is a great saving of labor, and no increase of expense or diminution of the comfort of passengers; and doubtless the skill of our merchants may be expected to devise some improvement in the management of the business.

Of the only expedition sent out since our last meeting, the Report of the American Colonization Society gives the following account:

“Our regular fall expedition was despatched in the barge Jasper, from New York, November 21; the emigrants having arrived in that city on the previous evening, in the steamer San Salvador, from Savannah. They numbered one hundred and fifty, mostly in families, and were all from the State of Georgia, viz: 24 from Sparta, Hancock county; 32 from Hawkinsville, Pulaski county; 35 from Milledgeville, Baldwin county; and 59 from Valdosta, Lowndes county. Fifty-nine chose to locate at Arthington, an interior town on the St. Paul's

river, and ninety-one at Philadelphia, a new settlement at Cape Palmas. Fifty-six reported themselves as communicants in the Methodist and Baptist Churches, with one licensed minister of the Gospel. Ninety-two were twelve years old and upwards; forty were between twelve and two years; and eighteen were under two years of age. Of the adult males, twenty-five were farmers, and one cooper and one carpenter.

"Messrs. Yates & Porterfield, of New York, with whom the contract had been made for their carriage in the *Jasper*, have long been engaged in the West African trade, and they fully provided for their comfort and subsistence, by having houses built for them on the main deck, which were spacious and airy, and by furnishing provisions of good quality and in abundant quantity. In addition to their baggage and the customary stores and tools for their support and use during their first six months after arrival, a cane sugar mill was shipped on the *Jasper* for Mr. Jefferson Bracewell, at his order, for which he pays \$225, exclusive of freight and insurance.

"Dr. John N. Lewis, who had just graduated from the Medical Department of Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, accompanied the emigrants, and will enter on the practice of his profession on landing in his native country.

"These one hundred and fifty emigrants make the whole number colonized by the Society since the war to be 2,987, and a total, from the beginning, of 14,975: exclusive of 5,722 recaptured Africans, which we induced and enabled the Government of the United States to settle in Liberia, making a grand total of 20,697 persons to whom the Society has given homes in Africa."

Dr. Lewis is well known in Boston, where his medical studies were mostly pursued. By a letter from him of January 21, it appears that the emigrants had all safely reached their several destinations in Liberia. They arrived at Monrovia January 1.

APPLICATIONS.

The *Christian Recorder*, the organ of the African Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States, said lately and truly:

"The fact is, the evangelization of Africa has at last to fall upon the negro. He is to be the man of God's right hand in redeeming its millions. We know that the politicians tell us this is exceptional; but indeed it is altogether in keeping with great social laws. We do not stop to argue the question whether colored Americans are so identified with Africa as to be called 'its own people.' But we do say, as the Irish Ameri-

can is *nearer* to Ireland than any other part of the American people, *and he feels so*, even so are we nearer to Africa; and therefore must we feel for its conversion more keenly than any others, and labor more assiduously."

Many of them also believe that God, by giving them their peculiar fitness for that work, and by giving them their freedom, so that they can now choose their own field of labor, plainly calls upon them to go to Africa and do it; and their own hearts prompt them to obey.

This, though secular considerations have their due influence, is a leading motive for numerous applications for aid to emigrate. They know that Christianity is to be made prevalent there, not only by what is technically called preaching the Gospel, which many of them are prepared to do, but also by the exhibition of Christian lives and conversation, and the establishment and maintenance of Christian institutions; and they ask aid to go there and do that work. When companies apply, their number is not always exactly stated; but according to the best estimate that could be formed at the last Annual Meeting in January, the applicants at that time were not less than three thousand. Since that time applications have been received from seven companies, four of which number three hundred and thirteen. Among them are the Rev. Peter Wright, of Florida, Methodist, who has declined an appointment at home that he may be at liberty to go; Rev. Charles Anderson, pastor of a large Baptist church in Georgia, for himself and many of his people; and Jefferson Graham, an elder in a Presbyterian church in Georgia, for himself, family, and friends. Besides these is Eugene Bernard, a well-educated young man from Chicago.

Shall they go? How many of them shall go? That depends partly on each reader of this report; for as many will go as donations enable us to send.

There are those who say that they should not be aided to go, because they are needed here as laborers. This doctrine, in its "practical application," means that Eugene Bernard should not go where his very presence will be an elevating influence, because white men in Chicago need him to groom horses or polish boots; and that the Rev. Peter Wright, Rev.

Charles Anderson, Elder Jefferson Graham, and their Christian friends, should not go where they are needed and qualified to promote the evangelization of heathen tribes, because white men in Georgia and Florida need them to plant cotton and pick worms from tobacco leaves.

And this heartless doctrine is urged upon us from quarters which make some notice of it a necessity. An enterprising New York daily paper, December 14, 1872, filled almost one of its pages with a communication from its "Special Correspondent," sent into the Southern States to report on their condition. A religious monthly,* of extensive circulation, and exerting more influence probably than any other publication over donations for the benefit of the freedmen, filled four of its pages for February with extracts from that report: endorsing them by saying that they "are in the main correct, and will enable our readers to form some judgment in regard to the South and its problems." One of the extracts, selected to guide "readers" in judging of "the South and its problems," is in the following words, viz:

"The most GIGANTIC PIECE OF STUPIDITY which any people ever entertained is that of the Colonization Society, to remove the only labor and the most consonant labor out of the South, after it has been brought there at frightful expense and trained and civilized, merely to carry out a political prejudice, without a particle of moral science or public necessity in it."

The assertion, that "a political prejudice" is a motive for our labors, is an undiluted falsehood. It betrays an ignorance of the Society and its works, which utterly disqualifies its author to form any opinion about them. For the rest, notice—

1. The argument is purely selfish. It takes no cognizance of any interest of the colored people here or in Africa, but only of the interests of those who need "labor."

2. It is applied to such persons as "the Colonization Society" aids "to remove:" that is, to the applicants for passage named above, and others like them.

3. It adroitly calls them, not laborers, but "labor," and "it." If the writer had called them *laborers*, the reader might have

*The "American Missionary."

been reminded that they are persons, and have human rights and human interests, which ought to be considered. Only persons can have rights. Speak of them impersonally; call them "labor," and "it," and the reader may heedlessly swallow the argument. The late Chief Justice Taney has been much blamed for saying that "negroes have no rights which white men are bound to respect." In fact, he only said that such a sentiment had prevailed eighty years previously; not that it was true, or that anybody held it now. But here is a writer, highly endorsed, who reasons about them, and decides what ought to be their location and destiny, just as if they were not persons, but mere things—a mere "it," utterly incapable of having any rights at all.

4. "It has been,"—not *they have been*, but—"it has been brought there at frightful expense," and therefore it is "gigantic stupidity" not to keep it. True, the "expense" of sending ships to Africa after cargoes of slaves, getting up wars there for their capture, paying high prices for kidnapping, and losing sometimes half the cargo on the return voyage, has been "frightful." But we thought our country professed to have repented of it as a sin, and of course would be willing to let go its grip upon the victims of that atrocity, and allow such of them and their descendants as desire it, to return to their fatherland. For

"Can one be pardoned and retain the offence?"

But no. It is claimed that they must be kept here to repay us for that "frightful expense" by their labor. It might be inconvenient to inquire how long that will take, or how much they have repaid already; especially if, on settlement, the balance should be found on the wrong side of the ledger. But enough of this slave-trader's argument, that "we need them as laborers." It was as good for bringing them here against their will, as it is for keeping them here against their will.

A still greater absurdity, if a greater be possible, has been perpetrated. It has been gravely suggested in legal proceedings, respecting property, that "since the war, the object of the Society is one opposed to the policy of the Government, viz: that of encouraging and aiding her citizens to emigrate." The

purpose is, to get a decision which shall diminish the facilities of *colored* citizens to emigrate. But it would not do to say that, for before the courts there must be "no distinction of color." So the proposition is made broad enough to include us all.

Freedom of emigration, and indeed of expatriation, is a right for which our Government has contended almost from its first establishment, and in respect to which it has obtained important concessions from all or nearly all the leading Powers of Europe; though that of Prussia is said to concede it grudgingly, because all its able-bodied men "are needed" at home as soldiers. But now courts are to be asked to decide that our Government has a "policy" of exactly the contrary character in respect to the emigration of "her citizens;" a "policy" to be known and recognized in court, and made a ground of decisions respecting property which may be used in aiding emigration. We do not believe that the people of the United States will admit that they are living in the clutches of any such restrictive "policy." They know and feel that they have the right to emigrate if they please; and this right, if any possess it, must be possessed by all, "irrespective of color." There is no "policy of the Government," or any good reason, which forbids white men or black men, who desire the work and are fit for it, to emigrate to India, China, Japan, South Africa, or West Africa, to promote Christian civilization, or which forbids those who think well of their design, to aid them in executing it.

LIBERIA.

Public affairs, somewhat deranged by the well-intended but unfortunate enterprises of President Roye, were rapidly restored to order on the inauguration of President Roberts in January of last year, and are now in a very satisfactory condition. Agriculture and commerce are represented by the President, in his last Annual Message, as advancing at more than their usual rate of progress.

MISSIONS IN LIBERIA.

The six Missionary Societies which are operating there, all report success, and several of them are extending their labors

more than formerly among the unmixed heathen population. It should be understood that, as shown in our last Report, these missions, so called, though supported mostly by funds from these Societies, are really Liberian institutions, manned and managed by Liberians, and not by foreigners sent there as missionaries. For example, among news from Liberia, under the head of "Liberia Presbyterian Mission," we read :

"One new church was lately organized at Brewerville, Liberia, and taken under the care of Presbytery. Mr. R. A. M. Deputie was ordained by the same Presbytery as an evangelist. This body, at its last meeting, decided to extend its missionary operations among the aborigines in the Republic, by establishing schools and religious services, and in other ways seeking their evangelization. Rev. T. E. Dillon reports the addition of nine persons during the year, on profession of their faith, to the church at Marshall."

So the Methodist Mission there is a "Conference," and the Protestant Episcopal a "Diocese," each with its bishop and clergy. These Liberian bodies plan and regulate, and these Liberian pastors and preachers and teachers do, the work which these six Societies sustain with their funds and annually report. This state of affairs is rather peculiar; but it has grown naturally out of the history and character of the country, and should not be disturbed by any rash innovation.

SCHOOLS IN LIBERIA.

The Presbyterian Mission, as has been stated, speaks of schools. All the missions have them. Each mission reports its schools to its own Missionary Board. But there is no arrangement by which reports of all the schools are collected at any one centre; nor do they all cover the same period of time. According to the latest information that has reached us, they are as follows:

Missions.	Schools.	Scholars.
Protestant Episcopal.....	20	443
Methodist Episcopal.....	15	450
Baptist.....	6	42
Southern Baptist.....	7	68
Presbyterian.....	3	41
Lutheran.....	1	39
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 1083

Of these 52 schools, however, 12 report no number of scholars, though some are said to be "well attended." If we suppose them to average 20 each, the whole number will be 1,323. Add to these, 130 in two schools supported by the American Colonization Society from the proceeds of the Graham Legacy,* and we have a total of 1,453. A few private schools may raise the whole number to 1,500. As some of these are pursuing higher studies, and some are from heathen families, the number of Liberian children receiving primary school instruction must be less, we know not how much.

The written examinations of a class of colored children, four years from commencing the alphabet, in a school at Nashville, Tennessee, are in the possession of their instructress at Beverly. The penmanship of all is easily legible, and of some elegant. The errors in orthography, syntax, and punctuation are few, and in some none were observed. They show a respectable knowledge of geography, and a mastery of arithmetic as far as vulgar fractions. To give each child of the civilized population of Liberia four years at school, supposing that population to be 20,000, would probably require an habitual attendance of about 1,600. The number of scholars reported is nearly large enough for that purpose, and authorizes the conclusion that Americo-Liberian children generally have some opportunity for primary school education. But generally the reports do not give the age or sex of the scholars, the constancy of their attendance, the studies pursued, or the progress made. The President's Message, quoted hereafter, compels us to believe that these omissions cover up great deficiencies.

The want of more complete information on this subject is much to be regretted; and as there is now a Commissioner of Education appointed in each county, we hope that want will not long continue. The law may rightfully, and probably does, require every school to report its whole condition at least annually to one of these Commissioners, so that the whole may be embodied in one report for the use of the Government. This would be no infringement on the religious liberty of the missions, and the public interest requires it.

* A third has since been added.

There has been a system of common schools in the statute-book of Liberia almost from its first settlement, and several beginnings have been made of putting it in operation. But, for a complication of reasons which it would be difficult to explain so as to do justice to all parties, its operation has never been universal, and it has been often wholly interrupted, and the work of primary education has gone almost wholly into the hands of the missions. And as these missions are wholly independent of each other, each has its own system, and there is no one system of common schools for the whole Republic except that in the statute-book, which is not in operation. This state of things has now continued for forty years, long enough for experiment, and ought not to be continued any longer; and the first step towards improvement is the ascertainment of facts.

To these remarks it is proper to add the following passage from the last annual message of President Roberts:

"In general, our native population is making encouraging advances, under the fostering operations of our civil and religious institutions; and I shall hope that the Legislature will find it within the scope of their pecuniary ability to continue, if not increase, the means of facilitating this desirable work. Many of the chiefs and headmen of the tribes within our limits are now earnestly importuning the Government to establish schools in their districts, for the instruction of their children in the principles of Christianity, in the ordinary branches of literature, and in the arts of civilized life. * * *

"In regard to the subject of general education in Liberia, I may only remark, that it is still of paramount importance. And it is a matter of deep regret that, even with the generous assistance of Missionary Societies in the United States, we are not able to supply the increasing demands for educational facilities in many of our scattered Americo-Liberian settlements. Some of these are wholly without regular schools, and others have schools of such low grade as to scarcely deserve the name of schools. Nothing can be more desirable than that the youth of our country, the whole country, should have placed within their reach the means of acquiring that degree of mental training necessary to make them useful members of society; and also, as far as practicable, to lay such a foundation as will enable them to reach readily those attainments required for the higher duties of life. In this view we have not only to deplore the need of funds to maintain schools, but

also the need of efficient teachers to conduct them. No one can doubt that both the Church and the State are now suffering for the want of additional intelligence to aid in advancing the civil and religious institutions of the country. In this connection, I have great pleasure in communicating to the Legislature, that that distinguished philanthropist and noble friend of Liberia, Hon. H. M. Schieffelin, who has always felt the liveliest interest in the educational advancement of the Republic, has just created a foundation from which the Government may expect to receive three hundred dollars per annum for the use of common schools. We thank him and the gentlemen who are co-operating with him in this kindness.

"And I may also add here, that we have great cause for thankfulness that a gracious Providence put it into the hearts of our friends in the United States—especially in Massachusetts, the cradle of American literature and science—to establish Liberia College. It stands among us as a beacon-light; an important and efficient agency in dispelling the deep gloom which for so many weary centuries has enveloped the minds of the people of this degraded Continent. It is an incalculable blessing to Liberia and to Africa; it has already prepared a goodly number of young men for usefulness, many of whom are now rendering valuable service as teachers and otherwise in various parts of the Republic. I shall hope that American philanthropy will continue to cherish an enterprise so eminently worthy of Christian sympathy, and will amply endow it for the successful prosecution of the work it is designed to accomplish."

By this time President Roberts knows that an important step has been taken towards the fulfillment of his hope, that the College will be endowed. In February last the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia received a donation of \$20,000, to be invested as a permanent fund, the income of which is to be expended in the support of that College. The money was immediately invested, safely and profitably.

This generous donation ought to attract attention and have influence as an example. It was not made in ignorance, or without consideration. The donor, the Hon. Albert Fearing, is well known as a man before whom the claims of the numerous benevolent enterprises of the day are brought, so that he is obliged to consider them and judge of their comparative merits. His duties as a member of the Board of Trustees, from its organization in 1850, and its President since 1855,

have given him a thorough knowledge of the condition, wants, and prospective usefulness of Liberia College. He gave \$5,000 in 1864 as a permanent fund for its library, and has given other sums at other times, so that the whole amount of his benefactions is about \$30,000 in cash, besides a large amount of personal labor and valuable time. The testimony of such a donation, from such a source, ought to have a convincing and persuasive influence on those who have wealth which they wish to use for the benefit of mankind.

Though the management and support of Liberia College is no part of the work of this Society, but of the Trustees of Donations for Education in Liberia, who have founded and sustained it, yet we have an interest in its success, which authorizes and impels us to notice whatever concerns it. The Republic which this Society is building up indispensably needs the College, that it may be furnished with intelligent citizens to fill the various departments of public life, and especially to carry the light of Christian civilization to its six hundred thousand aboriginal inhabitants, and to the uncounted millions who sit in darkness beyond them. We therefore thankfully record every addition to its means of permanency and usefulness.

NOTE.—The donations for the past year, having all been acknowledged in the African Repository, are omitted in this report.

In consequence of the resignation of the Rev. D. C. Haynes, District Secretary, new arrangements will be made for the collection of funds. Meanwhile, our friends are requested to remit their donations to Rev. Joseph Tracy, D. D., 16 Pemberton Square, Boston, Massachusetts, or to William Coppinger, Esq., Treasurer American Colonization Society, Washington, D. C.